

# M A I

MA'GPIE. *n. f.* [from *pie*, *pica*, Latin, and *mag*, contracted from *Margaret*, as *phil* is used to a *sparrow*, and *poll* to a *parrot*.] A bird sometimes taught to talk.

Augurs, that understood relations, have  
By *magpies* and by *choughs*, and *rooks* brought forth  
The secret of man of blood. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

Disimulation is expressed by a lady wearing a vizard of two faces, in her right-hand a *magpie*, which Spenser described looking through a lattice. *Peasam on Drawing.*

So have I seen in black and white,  
A prating thing, a *magpie* height,  
Majestically stalk;  
A stately, worthless animal,  
That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,  
All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*

MA'GYDARE. *n. f.* [*magudar*, Lat.] An herb. *Ainsl.*

MAID. *n. f.* [*mæden*, *mæghen*, Saxon, *maegd*, Dutch.]

MAIDEN. } *n. f.* [*mæden*, *mæghen*, Saxon, *maegd*, Dutch.]

1. An unmarried woman; a virgin.  
Your wives, your daughters,  
Your matrons, and your *maids*, could not fill up  
The cistern of my lust. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

This is a man old, wrinkl'd, faded, wither'd,  
And not a *maiden*, as thou say'st he is. *Shakespeare.*

I am not solely led  
By nice direction of a *maiden's* eyes. *Shakespeare.*

She employed the residue of her life to repairing of high-ways, building of bridges, and endowing of *maidens*. *Carew.*

Your deluded wife had been a *maid*;  
Down on the bridal bed a *maid* she lay,  
A *maid* she rose at the approaching day. *Dryden's Jew.*

Let me die, the said,  
Rather than lose the spotless name of *maid*. *Dryden.*

2. A woman servant.  
My *maid* Nerissa and myself, mean time,  
Will live as maids and widows. *Shakespeare. Merch. of Venice.*

Old Tancred visited his daughter's bow'r;  
Her cheek, for such his custom was, he kiss'd,  
Then blest'd her kneeling, and her *maids* dismiss'd. *Dryd.*

Her closet and the gods share all her time,  
Except when, only by some *maids* attended,  
She seeks some shady solitary grove. *Rowe.*

A thousand *maidens* ply the purple loom,  
To weave the bed, and deck the regal room. *Prior.*

3. Female.  
If she bear a *maid* child. *Lev. xii. 5.*

MAID. *n. f.* A species of skate fish.

MAIDEN. *adj.*

1. Consisting of virgins.  
Nor was there one of all the nymphs that rovd  
O'er Mænalus, amid the *maiden* throng  
More favour'd once. *Addison's Ovid's Metamorph.*

2. Fresh; new; unused; unpolluted.  
He fleshed his *maiden* sword. *Shakespeare.*

When I am dead, strew me o'er  
With *maiden* flowers, that all the world may know  
I was a chaste wife to my grave. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*

By this *maiden* blossom in my hand  
I scorn thee and thy fashion. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

MAIDENHAIR. *n. f.* [*maiden* and *hair*.] This plant is a native of the southern parts of France and in the Mediterranean, where it grows on rocks, and old ruins, from whence it is brought for medicinal use.

June is drawn in a mantle of dark grass green, upon his head a garland of bents, king's-cup, and *maidenhair*. *Peach.*

MAIDENHEAD. } *n. f.* [*from maiden*.]

MAIDENHOOD. } *n. f.* [*from maiden*.]

1. Virginity; virgin purity; freedom from contamination.  
And, for the modest lore of *maidenhood*,  
Bids me not sojourn with these armed men.  
Oh whither shall I fly? what secret wood  
Shall hide me from the tyrant? or what den. *Fairfax.*

She hated chambers, closets, secret mewes,  
And in broad fields prefer'd her *maidenhead*. *Fairfax.*

Example, that so terrible shews in the wreck of *maidenhood*, cannot for all that diffuse succession, but that they are lined with the twigs that threaten them. *Shakespeare.*

*Maidenhood* she loves, and will be swift  
To aid a virgin. *Milton.*

2. Newness; freshness; uncontaminated state. This is now become a low word.  
The devil and mischance look big  
Upon the *maidenhead* of our affairs. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*

Some who attended with much expectation, at their first appearing have stained the *maidenhead* of their credit with some negligent performance. *Watson.*

Hope's chaste kiss wrongs no joys *maidenhead*,  
Then spousal rites prejudice the marriage-bed. *Crashaw.*

MAIDENLIP. *n. f.* An herb. *Ainsl.*

MAIDENLY. *adj.* [*maiden* and *like*.] Like a maid; gentle, modest, timorous, decent.

'Tis not *maidenly*;

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Our sex as well as I may chide you for it. *Shakespeare.*  
Come, you virtuous ass, and bashful fool; must you be blushing? what a *maidenly* man at arms are you become?

MAIDHOOD. *n. f.* [*from maid*.] Virginity.

By *maidhood*, honour, and every thing,  
I love thee. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*

MAIDMARIAN. *n. f.* [*puer ludius*, Latin.] A kind of dance, so called from a buffoon dressed like a man, who plays tricks to the populace.

A set of morrice-dancers danced a *maidmari* with a tabor and pipe.

MAIDPALE. *adj.* [*maid* and *pale*.] Pale like a sick virgin.

Change the complexion of her *maidpale* peace  
To scarlet indignation. *Shakespeare.*

MAIDSERVANT. *n. f.* A female servant.

It is perfectly right what you say of the indifference in common friends, whether we are sick or well; the very *maid-servants* in a family have the same notion. *Swift.*

MAJESTICAL. } *adj.* [*from majesty*.]

MAJESTICK. } *adj.* [*from majesty*.]

1. August; having dignity; grand; imperial; regal; great of appearance.

They made a doubt  
Prefence *majestical* would put him out:  
For, quoth the king, an angel shalt thou see,  
Yet fear not thou, but speak audaciously. *Shakespeare.*

Get the start of the *majestical* world,  
And bear the palm alone. *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*

We do it wrong, being so *majestical*,  
To offer it the shew of violence. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

In his face  
Sate meekness, heighten'd with *majestical* grace. *Denham.*

A royal robe he wore with graceful pride,  
Embroider'd sandals glitter'd as he trod,  
And forth he mov'd, *majestical* as a god. *Pope's Odyssey.*

2. Stately; pompous; splendid.  
It was no mean thing which he purposed; to perform a work so *majestical* and stately was no small charge. *Hooker.*

3. Sublime; elevated; lofty.  
Which passage doth not only argue an infinite abundance, both of artizans and materials, but likewise of magnificent and *majestical* desires in every common person. *Watson.*

The least portions must be of the epick kind; all must be grave, *majestical*, and sublime. *Dryden.*

MAJESTICALLY. *adv.* [*from majestical*.] With dignity; with grandeur.

From Italy a wand'ring ray  
Of moving light illuminates the day;  
Northward the bends, *majestically* bright,  
And here she fixes her imperial light. *Granville.*

So have I seen in black and white  
A prattling thing, a *magpie* height,  
*Majestically* stalk;  
A stately, worthless animal,  
That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,  
All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*

MAJESTY. *n. f.* [*majestas*, Latin.]

1. Dignity; grandeur; greatness of appearance; an appearance awful and solemn.

The voice of the Lord is full of *majesty*. *Psal. xxix. 4.*

The Lord reigneth; he is clothed with *majesty*. *Psal. xciii.*

Amidst  
Thick clouds and dark, doth heav'n's all-ruling fire  
Chafe to reside, his glory unobscur'd,  
And with the *majesty* of darkness round  
Covers his throne. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*

Great, without pride, in sober *majesty*. *Pope.*

2. Power; sovereignty.  
Thine, O Lord, is the power and *majesty*. *1 Chron. xxix.*

To the only wife God be glory and *majesty*. *Jude v. 25.*

He gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father *majesty*. *Dan. v. 18.*

3. Dignity; elevation.  
The first in loftiness of thought surpass'd,  
The next in *majesty*. *Dryden.*

The title of kings and queens.  
Most royal *majesty*,  
I crave no more than what your highness offer'd,  
Nor will you tender less. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

I have a garden opens to the sea,  
From whence I can your *majesty* convey  
To some nigh friend.  
He, who had been always believed a creature of the queue,  
visited her *majesty* but once in six weeks. *Clarendon.*

I walk in awful state above  
The *majesty* of heaven. *Dryden.*

MAIL. *n. f.* [*maille*, Fr. *maglia*, Italian, from *maille*, the mesh of a net. *Skinner*.] A quo fonte derivantur multa vitorum nomina pr. ut *mailleur*, long or *meiler*, breich-vail clypeatus, vulgo broch-wael. Hy-vad, Howel boldly armed. *Reveland.*

1. A coat of steel network worn for defence. *Some*

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Some shirts of *mail*, some coats of plate put on,  
Some don'd a curace, some a corset bright. *Fairfax, b. i.*

Being advised to wear a privy coat, the duke gave this answer, That against any popular fury, a shirt of *mail* would be but a silly defence. *Watson.*

Some wore coat-armour, imitating scale,  
And next their skin were stubborn shirts of *mail*;  
Some wore a breast-plate. *Dryden's Knight's Tale.*

2. Any armour.  
We strip the lobster of his scarlet *mail*. *Gay.*

3. A peasant's bundle; a bag. [*male*, *malette*, French.]

4. MAIL. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To arm defensively; to cover, as with armour.

The mailed Mars shall on his altar sit  
Up to the ears in blood. *Shakespeare. Henry IV. p. i.*

I am thy married wife,  
And thou a prince, protector of this land;  
Methinks I should not thus be led along,  
Mail'd up in flame, with papers on my back. *Shakespeare.*

TO MAIM. *v. a.* [*maim*, Gothic, to cut off; *mohaigner*, to maim, old French; *mehaina*, Armorick; *manus*, Lat.] To deprive of any necessary part; to cripple by loss of a limb.

You wrought to be a legate, by which power  
You maim'd the jurisdiction of all bishops. *Shakespeare.*

The multitude wonder'd when they saw the dumb to speak,  
the maim'd to be whole, and the lame to walk; and they glorified God. *Matth. xv. 31.*

MAIM. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.]

1. Privation of some essential part; lameness, produced by a wound or amputation.

Surely there is more cause to fear, least the want thereof be a *maim*, than the use a blemish. *Hooker, b. v.*

Humphry, duke of Gloucester, scarce himself,  
That bears to shew'd a *maim*; two pulls at once;  
A lady banish'd, and a limb lost off? *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

2. Injury; mischief.  
Not so deep a *maim*,  
As to be cast forth in the common air,  
Have I deferred. *Shakespeare. Rich. II.*

3. Essential defect.  
A noble author esteems it to be a *maim* in history, that the acts of parliament should not be recited. *Hayward.*

MAIN. *adj.* [*magne*, old French; *magnus*, Latin.]

1. Principal; chief; leading.  
In every grand or *main* publick duty, which God requireth at the hands of his church, there is, besides that matter and form wherein the essence thereof consisteth, a certain outward fashion, whereby the same is in decent manner administered. *Hooker, b. iv.*

There is a history in all mens lives,  
Figuring the nature of the times deceased;  
The which observ'd a man may prophesy,  
With a near aim, of the *main* chance of things  
As yet not come to life. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*

He is superstitious grown of late,  
Quite from the *main* opinion he had once  
Of fantasy, of dreams, and ceremonies. *Shakespeare.*

There arose three notorious and *main* rebellions, which drew several armies out of England. *Davies on Ireland.*

The nether flood,  
Which now divided into four *main* streams,  
Runs diverse. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iv.*

I should be much for open war, O peers,  
If what was urg'd  
Main reason to persuade immediate war,  
Did not diffuse me most. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*

All creatures look to the *main* chance, that is, food and propagation.

Our main interest is to be as happy as we can, and as long as possible. *L'Estrange's Fables.*

Nor tell me in a dying father's tone,  
Be careful still of the *main* chance, my son;  
Put out the principal in trusty hands;  
Live on the life, and never dip thy lands. *Dryden's Pers.*

Whilst they have busied themselves in various learning,  
they have been wanting in the one *main* thing. *Baker.*

Nor is it only in the *main* design, but they have followed him in every episode. *Pope's Pref. to the Iliad.*

2. Violent; strong; overpowering; vast.  
Think, you question with a Jew.  
You may as well go stand upon the beach,  
And bid the *main* flood bate his usual height. *Shakespeare.*

Transports our adversary, whom no bounds,  
Nor yet the *main* abyss,  
Wide interrupt, can hold? *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iii.*

3. Grois; containing the chief part.  
We ourselves will follow  
In the *main* battle, which on either side  
Shall be well winged with our chiefest horse. *Shakespeare.*

MAIM. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.]

1. A coat of steel network worn for defence. *Some*

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All abreast *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*  
Charg'd our *main* battle's front.

4. Important; forcible.  
This young prince, with a train of young noblemen and gentlemen, but not with any *main* army, came over to take possession of his new patrimony. *Davies on Ireland.*

That, which thou aright  
Believ'st to *main* to our success, I bring. *Milt. Par. Lost.*

MAIN. *n. f.*

1. The grois; the bulk; the greater part.  
The *main* of them may be reduced to language, and an improvement in wisdom, by seeing men. *Locke.*

2. The sum; the whole; the general.  
They allowed the liturgy and government of the church of England as to the *main*. *King Charles.*

These notions concerning coinage have, for the *main*, been put into writing above twelve months. *Locke.*

3. The ocean.  
A substitute shines brightly as a king,  
Until a king be by; and then his state  
Empties itself, as doth an inland brook  
Into the *main* of waters. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*

Where's the king?  
Bids the wind blow the earth into the sea;  
Or swell the curled waters 'bove the *main*,  
That things might change. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

He fell, and struggling in the *main*,  
Cry'd out for helping hands, but cry'd in vain. *Dryden.*

Say, why should the collected *main*  
Itself within itself contain?  
Why to its caverns should it sometimes creep,  
And with delighted silence sleep  
On the lov'd bosom of its parent deep? *Prior.*

4. Violence; force.

He 'gan advance  
With huge force, and insupportable *main*,  
And towards him with dreadful fury prance. *Fa. Qu.*

With might and *main*  
He hasten'd to get up again. *Hudibras, p. i.*

With might and *main* they chae'd the murder'ous fox,  
With brazen trumpets, and inflated box. *Dryden.*

5. [From *manus*, Latin.] A hand at dice.  
Were it good,  
To set the exact wealth of all our states  
All at one cast; to set so rich a *main*  
In the nice hazard of one doubtful hour. *Shakespeare.*

To pass our tedious hours away,  
We throw a merry *main*. *Earl Dorset's Song.*

Writing is but just like dice,  
And lucky *main* make people wise:  
That jumbled words, if fortune throw them,  
Shall, well as Dryden, form a poem. *Prior.*

6. The continent.  
In 1589 we turned challengers, and invaded the *main* of Spain. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

7. A hamper. *Ainsl.*

MAINLAND. *n. f.* [*main* and *land*.] Continent.  
Ne was it island then, ne was it pay's'd  
Amid the ocean waves,  
But was all desolate, and of some thought,  
By sea to have been from the Celtick *mainland* brought. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*

Those whom Tyber's holy forests hide,  
Or Circe's hills from the *mainland* divide. *Dryden's Æn.*

MA'INLY. *adv.* [*from main*.]

1. Chiefly; principally.

A brutish vice,  
Inductive *mainly* to the sin of Eve. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

They are *mainly* reducible to three. *Mare.*

The rectalick matter now found in the perpendicular intervals of the frata, was originally lodged in the bodies of those frata, being interperched amongst the matter, whereof the said frata *mainly* consist. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

2. Greatly; powerfully.  
It was observed by one, that himself came hardly to a little riches, and very easily to great riches: for when a man's stock is come to that, that he can expect the prime of markets, and overcome those bargains, which, for their greatness, are few mens money, and be partner in the industries of younger men, he cannot but increase *mainly*. *Bacon.*

MA'INMAST. *n. f.* [*main* and *mast*.] The chief or middle mast.

One dire shot,  
Close by the board the prince's *mainmast* bore. *Dryden.*

A Dutchman, upon breaking his leg by a fall from a *mainmast*, told the standers by, it was a mercy it was not his neck. *Spectator, N<sup>o</sup>. 574.*

MA'INFEARABLE. *adj.* Bailable; that may be admitted to give surety.